AMSAT News Service Weekly Bulletins
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AMSAT NEWS SERVICE
ANS-094

ANS is a free, weekly, news and information service of AMSAT North America, The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation. ANS reports on the activities of a worldwide group of Amateur Radio operators who share an active interest in designing, building, launching and communicating through analog and digital Amateur Radio satellites.

Please send any amateur satellite news or reports to:
ans-editor@amsat.org

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* The AMSAT team is preparing for the 2010 Dayton Hamvention AMSAT *
*   Booth and activities. For the latest information go to: *
*   http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/hamvention/2010/Dayton.php   *
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In this edition:

* AMSAT at Dayton Hamvention 2010
* 2010 AMSAT Space Symposium & Annual General Meeting
* FUNcube at United Kingdom Space Conference 2010
* Delfi-C3 Survives Orbital Near Miss
* Satellite Shorts From All Over
* Update on the ISS Columbus Module Amateur Radio Station

SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-094.01
AMSAT at Dayton Hamvention 2010

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 094.01
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
April 4, 2010
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-094.01

The 2010 Dayton Hamvention will be held this year on 14-16 May 2010.

This is the 59th year of the Dayton Hamvention, sponsored by DARA (Dayton Amateur Radio Association). As has been the case for the many years Hamvention will be at the Hara Arena Complex on the north side of Dayton. Further information on Hamvention 2010, including advance ticket sales and motel accommodations, can be found at http://www.hamvention.org

AMSAT will occupy the same booths (444-449) in Ball Arena, right across from the ARRL area and just inside the door from the Satel-lite Demonstration area. Plan to visit all of the AMSAT activities!

AMSAT Activities at Dayton

AMSAT has planned a number of great activities during Hamvention. There will also be a number of new offerings at the AMSAT booth as well as special deals.

The AMSAT theme for 2010 is "Space Technology for Hams". We will have multipe exhibits of the new AMSAT satellites on display.

ARISSat

ARISSat has continued to develop this past year. We will have on display one of the operational development prototypes. We expect the satellite to be launched later this year.

AMSAT Thursday Night Get-together

We will be at Tickets Pub & Eatery this year. The menu is great and a nice change of pace. Check it out at TicketsPub.com

AMSAT Forum

The AMSAT Forum will be on Saturday May 15 in Forum Room 5 from 11:15 am - 1:30 pm.

AMSAT/TAPR Banquet

The fourth annual AMSAT/TAPR Banquet will be Friday night May 14 at the Kohler Banquet Center. TAPR will be providing the keynote speaker. The price for the Banquet is $30. Seating is limited and reservations are required. Follow the Dayton Banquet 2010 link below for information about reservations and additional information. Additional information as it becomes available.

AMSAT Hotel

AMSAT has a limited block of rooms reserved at the Country Inn & Suites in Fairborn, OH. Please contact Martha at the AMSAT office for room price and availability during Hamvention. Priority for rooms will be given to those volunteering to work in the AMSAT booth for multiple 2 hour shifts during Hamvention. The phone number for the AMSAT office is 301-589-6062. Other hotels in the immediate area of the Country Inn & Suites include the Fairfield Inn, Ramada Inn, Hampton Inn, Fairborn Holiday Inn, Red Roof Inn and the Homewood Suites if additional accommodations are needed.

[ANS thanks the AMSAT Dayton Hamvention Team for the above information]

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-094.02
2010 AMSAT Space Symposium & Annual General Meeting

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 094.02
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
April 4, 2010
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-094.02

AMSAT announced the 2010 AMSAT Space Symposium will be held in Chicago on Friday, October 8th through Sunday, October 10th.

Features planned for this exciting weekend of Amateur Radio in Space:

+ Space Symposium with Amateur Satellite Presentations
+ Operating Techniques, News, & Plans from the Amateur Satellite World
+ Board of Directors Meeting open to AMSAT members
+ Meet Board Members and Officers
+ Annual General Membership Meeting
+ Annual Banquet Keynote Speaker and Door Prizes

This year we have selected the Chicago/Elk Grove Holiday Inn just west of Chicago at 1000 Busse Road, Elk Grove, IL. The hotel is near O'Hare

Airport and has free hourly shuttles.

Watch the ANS bulletins and the AMSAT Symposiumweb page for the latest updates: http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/hamvention/2010/Dayton.php

[ANS thanks the 2010 Symposium Committee for the above information]

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-094.03
FUNcube at United Kingdom Space Conference 2010

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 094.03
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
April 4, 2010
To All RADIO AMATEURS
BID: $ANS-094.03

The United Kingdom Space Conference was held from March 24-28 in Godalming Surrey. This premier event always attracts a stellar cast of speakers and this year was no exception. The launch of the UK Space Agency in same week added to the excitement. Many of the presentations are available for view from the Ustream server

AMSAT-UK attended to explain their exciting plans for the FUNcube satellite. As well as the Amateur Radio SSB/CW transponder FUNcube will provide an in-orbit tool for science education outreach and hands-on training in space and all the STEM subjects (Science technology Engineering & Mathematics)The telemetry system is designed for easy reception by school pupils using extremely simple hand held VHF receive equipment connected to a PC sound-card or USB port.

The satellite contains a materials science experiment and pupils will be able to receive the results direct from space and compare them with similar reference experiments in the classroom.

The FUNcube stand at the conference included a mock-up of the new satellite and a demonstration of the telemetry. FUNcube is expected to be launched in early 2011

Michael Castle, G1ZVN, gave a short introduction on FUNcube during one of the education sessions and FUNcube was also featured in a presentation on the UK National Cubesat project.

During the 5 days over 1000 people attended the event and the con-cept behind FUNcube was well received.

There will be more demonstrations of FUNcube at the AMSAT-UK Inter-national Space Colloquium to be held in Guildford from 31 July to 1 August.

For more information about AMSAT-UK follow these links:
FUNcube: http://www.FUNcube.org.uk/
AMSAT-UK: http://www.uk.amsat.org/
Ustream Server: http://www.ustream.tv/channel/uksc-2010

[ANS thanks Trevor, M5AKA for the above information]

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-094.04
Delfi-C3 Survives Orbital Near Miss

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 094.04
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
April 4, 2010
To All RADIO AMATEURS
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This week the Delft University of Technology in the Netherland's Delfi-C3 satellite survived a close encounter with orbiting COSMOS debris. On March 30 the two spacecraft passed near each other with a head-on velocity of 15 km/sec and an estimated clearance of 492 meters. As of April 2, Wouter was able to report, "Delfi-C3 and the COSMOS debris missed each other by more than 700 meters, so no harm was done as far as we know. Delfi-C3 is still performing nominally."

The Delfi-C3 Operations Team invites amateur radio operators to have a look at the mission operations page at:
http://www.delfic3.nl/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=&
Itemid
2
for frequency info and the latest RASCAL download.

Due to Delfi-C3's habit of sometimes switching off from science mode, you might hear nothing while Delfi-C3 is fine. Don't panic! but please do listen the orbits after and post your findings on the satellite status page at: http://oscar.dcarr.org

[ANS thanks Wouter Weggelaar, PA3WEG for the above information]

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-094.05
Satellite Shorts From All Over

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 094.05
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
April 4, 2010
To All RADIO AMATEURS
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+ Nick, KB1RVT reported working OX/N0RC, Reid on HO-68 from Greenland (grid FQ56) at 1544 UTC on April 1. Ib, OZ1MY reported he could copy Reid in Copenhagen during the same pass. Reid will be using OX/N0RC for his call since OX3RC never came in. Reid added that his trip to Greenland has been extended until the end of May.

+ If you want to read a straight-forward guide to Software Defined Radio check out the web pages produced by Tobias Wellnitz DH1TW: http://www.dh1tw.de/understanding-the-sdr-concept

+ Gabriel, EA6VQ reported DX-Sherlock now provides satellite-specific real-time maps and QSO lists. See: http://www.vhfdx.info/spots/map.php?Freq=T

+ OSCAR-11 achieved 26 years in orbit on 01 March! It was designed, built and launched within a period of six months, using commercially available 'off the shelf' components (COTS). Once again, congratulations to Professor Sir Martin Sweeting G3YJO, his team at the University of Surrey and groups of radio amateurs who also contributed to

the project. Unfortunately, the satellite wasn't transmitting on its birthday, but was heard briefly, three days later. Due to eclipses, deterioration of the battery and other parts of the satellite, it's not possible to predict when the satellite will be heard in the coming

months. It is likely that it may be heard occasionally, by stations tuning around the beacon frequency: 145.826 MHz. AFSK FM ASCII Tele-metry. Please send reception reports to g3cwv at amsat dot org.

+ JI5RPT plans to operate as JD1BLY from Chichijima Island (IOTA AS-031) Ogasawara on 40m to 6m and Satellite (CW/DIGI/SSB) between May 2 to May 7, 2010. QSL via his home callsign JI5RPT. Logsearch will be on his website. http://www.ji5rpt.com/jd1/ (via Makoto, JI5RPT

via NG3K-DX-News and MakeMoreMilesonVHF Newsletter).

+ Eric, ON4HF has set up a new satellite forum and invites interested radio amateurs to register and enjoy the site at: http://www.on4hf.be/forum

+ Listen for Brock, W6GMT on the FM satellites as he begins his annual trip north to the summer QTH in Minnesota on Wednesday, April 7th. His trip will take him through Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, and Minnesota. I will activate grids using his FT-817 and an Elk antenna. He will accept grid requests via e-mail at w6gmt@bak.rr.com. QSL to his Minnesota address.

+ And, LU4FLJ worked Sebasti[illegible]n, W4AS via AO-7, Mode B on 3/21/2010 at 23:22 UTC.

[ANS thanks everyone for the above information]

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SB SAT @ AMSAT $ANS-094.06
Update on the ISS Columbus Module Amateur Radio Station

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 094.06
>From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
April 4, 2010
To All RADIO AMATEURS
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The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) international team met for the monthly teleconference on March 16. Two highlights of the meeting include the planned installation of VHF and UHF FM amateur radio equipment and possible digital amateur television from the Columbus module at the International Space Station.

The installation of the Ericsson radio used by ARISS in the Columbus module is scheduled to be done by astronaut Mike Fincke, KE5AIT on the STS-134 shuttle flight planned for late July 2010. ESA hopes to have a special contact to commemorate the first operation of amateur radio in the Columbus Module.

Gaston Bertels, ON4WF reported that the Amateur Radio - Columbus (ARCOL) Working Group is currently proposing the flight of a digital amateur television (DATV) system to downlink TV on S-band. ARISS US team members Mark Severance N5XWF; Mark Steiner K3MS; Lou McFadin W5DID; Kenneth Ransom N5VHO; Rosalie White K1STO; and Carol Jackson KB3LKI are assisting.

The Digital Television capability, under consideration for installation by the ESA in December, 2010 poses technical challenges. The biggest technical challenge is the obtaining of a suitable power supply. Gaston is working with ESA to resolve this.

While DATV from the Columbus module will open up an exciting new capability for education contacts, it will require a more capable ground station to receive the S-band DATV signals. This has implications for the existing telebridge stations, including how the DATV images would be routed to the event sites. Gaston will be establishing a working group to help tackle these two challenges (reception and passing to the event site), and is actively soliciting volunteers to help out.

The ARCOL group has already accomplished the assembly and installation of
the L- and S-band patch antennas mounted on the exterior of the Columbus

Module.

[ANS thanks the ARISS team for the above information]

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In addition to regular membership, AMSAT offers membership in the President's Club. Members of the President's Club, as sustaining donors to AMSAT Project Funds, will be eligible to receive additional benefits. Application forms are available from the AMSAT Office. And with that please keep in mind the tale of the man who walks into a hardware store and asks if they have a tool for breaking up some hard ground. The shop assistant points to a row of suitable tools along the wall and replies, "Certainly sir, take your pick." After that the bloke tried a career as a gold prospector, but it didn't pan out.

73,
This week's ANS Editor,
JoAnne Maenpaa, K9JKM